

PATENT APPLICATION

**FACILITATING INVERSE MULTIPLEXING OVER ASYNCHRONOUS  
TRANSFER MODE VIA COMMUNICATION LINKS HAVING DISPARATE  
DATA TRANSMISSION RATES**

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

5 A method for facilitating inverse multiplexing over asynchronous transfer mode is  
disclosed herein. The method includes receiving a stream of sequentially aligned ATM  
cells via an originating end point logical communication link. A sequence identifier is  
associated with each one of the ATM for creating sequence identified ATM cells. The  
sequence identified ATM cells are forwarded to an destination endpoint logical  
10 communication link in a distributed manner over a plurality of IM communication links.  
A first one of said IM communication links has disparate data transmission rates in at least  
one data transmission direction with respect to a second one of the IM communication  
links.